

AGN. NO. \_\_\_\_\_

MOTION BY MAYOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH AND  
SUPERVISOR ZEV YAROSLAVSKY

July 12, 2011

**AMENDMENT TO ITEM #7: EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMAND POST**

We have before us today a recommendation to extend Emergency Shelter Care contracts with 13 contractors and to increase the capacity of three. Located throughout the County, these services, contracted since 2008 from various licensed foster parents, support Children's Social Workers with their emergency placements of children 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, including weekends and holidays.

In June 2003, shortly after the closure of MacLaren Children's Center, the Board of Supervisors learned that children and youth were spending nights at the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) Emergency Response Command Post (ERCP). At that time, the Board directed DCFS to take immediate corrective action. On May 5, 2005, the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) Community Care Licensing (CCL) Division cited DCFS for operating an unlicensed facility at its ERCP, following which DCFS conducted an in-depth analysis of the children who stayed at the ERCP and established protocols and procedures to prevent children from waiting anywhere, ERCP or other, as they were moved into a safe, stable and permanent setting.

While we support today's recommendation to both extend our existing contracted Emergency Shelter Care services and to increase their capacity, an independent review of the time that children wait at the ERCP as well as ERCP policies and procedures; and a comprehensive analysis of our overall Countywide placement capacity, to include whether the specialized needs of our abused and neglected population corresponds to our contracted specialized placement capacity, will further inform the necessary solutions to shortening the waits for placement, at ERCP and/or DCFS regional offices.

M O R E

AMENDMENT TO ITEM #7: EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMAND POST

MOTION

MOLINA \_\_\_\_\_

RIDLEY-THOMAS \_\_\_\_\_

YAROSLAVSKY \_\_\_\_\_

KNABE \_\_\_\_\_

ANTONOVICH \_\_\_\_\_

**WE, THEREFORE, MOVE** that the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors direct:

- (1) The Auditor-Controller to conduct an independent review of the Department of Children and Family Services Emergency Response Command Post operations since 2005 and
- (2) The Acting Director of DCFS and the Chief Executive Officer, in conjunction with the Director of the Department of Mental Health, to report back in 30 days and quarterly thereafter, with a comprehensive analysis of Countywide need and placement capacity; and recommendations to better integrate and blend funding and services between the two departments.

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MDA:hbb

*s/ 2011Motions:Amendmentto Item7: EmergencyResponseCommandPost*